(f) & (g) In connexion with the breaches that occurred in October 1928, which were due to exceptionally heavy rains, the Government have addressed the Agent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, in regard to the adequacy of certain waterways in the area affected. The matter will be further investigated.

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu :—"May I know from the hon. the Finance Member whether the Agent, Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway gave it as his opinion that the present culverts and bridges were not of sufficient width?"

The hon. Mr. T. E. Moir :—"So far as I know, that is not the case."

Bucket shops.

Legislation for putting down bucket shops.

* 1240 Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) what progress, if any, has been made in the matter of legislation to put down bucket shops since November 1928 when this question was answered in the Council;

(b) whether a Bill will be introduced in this Council; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A Bill will be introduced at the meeting of the Legislative Council commencing on the 28th January 1929.

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"May I ask whether the provisions of the Bill will apply only to the City of Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"May I know whether he is aware that the Bill will not serve any useful purpose if it is restricted to the city alone?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"The Government believe that the evil will be minimised to a very large extent."

Mr. Abdul Hamid Khan :—"May I know if the hon. Member is aware that in all practically important towns in the province bucket shops have already been opened?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"No, Sir. That is not our information."

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar :—"May I ask the hon. Member whether he is aware that there are a number of bucket shops in Saidapet and that people from the city will go there in large numbers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Usman Sahib Bahadur :—"No, Sir. The Government do not think so."

Depressed classes.

Rural and urban indebtedness of ryots in the Kallar reclamation districts.

* 1241 Q.—Mr. S. N. Dorai Raja : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(a) to call for and lay on the Council table an accurate and exhaustive statement of the rural and urban indebtedness of ryots in the various